



The 2009–2010 Camp Fire USA National Art Competition!

One of the Trail to Creativity Choices for the Centennial Youth Project, is to complete the National Art Competition. The requirements for this project are included here. More information and resources are available on the Camp Fire USA Compass.

Participant Information

Camp Fire USA participants from all over the country enter the National Art Competition, held each year. You can participate, too! This year the format year is open medium and the theme is “**Art Goes Green.**” “Going green” means becoming actively interested in environmental issues and supporting environmental causes. Possible topics of interest to pursue in the art competition are climate change, population, transportation, and waste. Projects can be created using natural, recycled, or reused materials. Also, participants can portray messages in their work about the importance of “going green” and the state of the natural environment.

To enter the Camp Fire USA National Art Competition, you can choose from several activities. You can do these activities with your Camp Fire group, at your Camp Fire program site, with your family, or on your own.

The National Art Competition is conducted through Camp Fire USA Councils. Be sure to learn about the rules and deadlines for your council’s competition. Following are the activities that can be completed, either individually or as a group.

National Art Competition Youth Activities (Choose Four)

1. Visit an art gallery, art show, museum, or theatre. View environmental creations, and learn about the different ways in which recycled or reused materials are used in art projects.
 - Attend presentations in the arts at your local school.
 - Attend presentations at professional venues to experience excellence. Younger children can attend a children's theater; older youth can watch adult dramas, comedies, musicals, symphonies, jazz ensembles, ballet, ethnic dancing, and modern dance forms including jazz and tap. Museums sometimes offer musical and dramatic programming as well as their regular exhibits.
 - Find a book from the library introducing environmental art and different art forms, such as dancing, acting, and painting.
 2. Interview or research a local artist who creates does environmental art. Ask about the mediums he or she uses and about choosing art as a career.
 - Find someone who uses recycled materials to create their masterpieces. Why do they choose these materials? Do they prefer a specific type of recycled matter? Where do they find their recycled goods?
 - Visit a local recording studio to see how music is made and recorded. Interview a musician or producer about the steps involved in creating a song.
 3. Learn about the different art mediums. Discuss with your group the differences in the art forms and why some prefer one medium to another.
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The 2009–2010 Camp Fire USA National Art Competition (continued)

4. Do research on environmental issues— read a book or watch a video, documentary, or television series. With a group of friends or family members, discuss the messages portrayed. What did the messages make you feel?
 - Read *The Giving Tree*, by Shel Silverstein, which is about humans destroying the environment that keeps them alive. Silverstein used art to make his message vivid. Brainstorm ways that you can recreate his artistic messaging.
 - Check out a documentary on climate change from your local library.
 - Look at books of artists who have created pieces out of recycled materials.
5. Find at least three used goods that you can recycle, and use them to create your final art competition project. These materials can be used to create a musical instrument or a prop to support the video or drama.
6. Find an environmental art exhibit being displayed or performed in your community. In a group, discuss the work and how and where it is displayed.
7. Experiment with an art medium to design and make something without using a pattern or a kit.
8. Select, complete, and submit an art project using any medium portraying a “green” theme that is suitable for an art competition.



**Camp Fire Youth and
Presidents
Roosevelt and Bush**

